

Minutes of the
Washington Aqueduct Wholesale Customer Board Meeting
Thursday, September 14, 2000
Board Room, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
777 North Capitol Street

Pursuant to the memorandum of understanding between the Army and the wholesale customers of the Washington Aqueduct, the annual meeting of the Wholesale Customer Board convened at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 14, 2000.

Present were the Chair, Mr. Daniel E. McKeever, City Manager Falls Church; Mr. Jerry N. Johnson, General Manager, District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority; and Mr. Sam Kem, Director of Public Works, Arlington County representing Mr. William Donahue, Arlington County Manager. Mr. Tom Jacobus represented Washington Aqueduct. Staff assistants from the customers' jurisdictions and the Washington Aqueduct were also present. In the audience were a representative from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and representatives from EPA Region III.

The meeting followed the agenda at enclosure 1 with the addition of two items. Mr Kem asked to give an update on a request from the Department of Defense Washington Headquarters Services for Arlington County to install revenue meters on that portion of the federally owned water mains that serve Virginia. Mr. Johnson asked to update the board on the work that the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is doing on behalf of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority Board to fulfil two study obligations in the public law that created the Authority.

In the Operational Update, Mr. Jacobus reviewed the Washington Aqueduct's and the distribution systems' water quality results for the last year. Average filtered water turbidity from the two treatment plants generally was at or below 0.1 NTU, which is five times better than the national standard. Total Trihalomethanes on a four-quarter average ending in June were in a very narrow range with 82 ppb for the District of Columbia, 81 ppb for Arlington County, and 80 ppb for Falls Church. All of these are well within the current 100 ppb standard. Mr. Jacobus briefed the board on the progress of the chloramine project that is designed to reduce these values and comply with the new Disinfectant Byproducts Rule. The switch to chloramine as the secondary disinfectant is on schedule for November 1, 2000. The turbidity charts and disinfectant byproduct charts briefed to the board are at enclosure 2.

In the construction update, Mr. Dave MacGregor, chief of the Planning and Engineering Branch gave a summary of the ongoing work that has been accomplished using the funds from the Treasury loan. The project list at enclosure 3 is presented in the same format as the Attachment G to the treasury loan agreement. The projects that have been completed and are in service are in italics. Those not yet complete are in regular type. About 75 percent of the projects have been completed. We expect to completely use the borrowing authority in the time allotted for the purpose intended. We are also moving out on the FY 2000 pay-as-you-go projects authorized by the Board.

Mr. Jacobus gave an update on the progress of the water quality study ongoing in support of the reissuance of an NPDES permit. The study plan that is going to be used to determine the effects of the Aqueduct's solids discharge on the Potomac is about 75 percent complete. By the end of the year, our contractor, EA Engineering, will be complete with data collection and will produce a draft report. The material at enclosure 4 is a memorandum from the contractor summarizing the work to date.

Mr. Lloyd Stowe, chief of Plant Operations Branch, briefed on upcoming regulatory changes that will have some effect on Aqueduct operations. (Listing at enclosure 5.) The Aqueduct is on track with construction or operational changes to ensue compliance and there are no significant budget issues. In our budget we continue to carry three large projects: Solids Handling, Ozonation, and Backwash Treatment. It is possible that regulations that are more restrictive could someday cause us to move forward with ozone treatment. However, we do not see that as a near term event.

Mr. Jacobus presented the FY 2002 O&M Budget for \$26.4 million which represents 189 positions, \$11.7 million for personnel costs, and \$14.7 million for non-personal services to include supplies, energy, communications, services and equipment. The summary display is at enclosure 6. Mr. Jacobus recommended to the Board Chair that the Board consider a motion for approval. Mr. Johnson made the motion for approval and Mr. Kem seconded. The Board unanimously approved the operations and maintenance budget as presented.

Mr. Jacobus presented the FY2002 capital budget which requests \$7.9 million to sustain the ongoing revitalization and process improvement work. These projects are listed at enclosure 7. Also at enclosure 7 are descriptions of the projects along with the FY2002-2011 capital improvement plan and for the record the FY1997-FY2001 approved plan. Mr. Jacobus recommended to the Board Chair that the Board consider a motion for approval. Mr. Kem made the motion for approval and Mr. Johnson seconded. The Board unanimously approved the FY2002 capital budget as presented.

Mr. Kem reported that the Arlington County Manager had responded to a request from the Director of Real Estate and Facilities of Washington Headquarters Services (i.e. the Pentagon Reservation) to provide assistance by installing 17 water meters on the federally owned water main system that services the Pentagon as well as Arlington National Cemetery and Reagan National Airport. In cooperation with Washington Aqueduct and DC Water and Sewer Authority, they will do this work. The purpose of this may be a precursor to a decision to transfer operation and maintenance of these lines to Arlington County. That would remove Washington Aqueduct responsibility for that. It would also, however, require coordination with DC Water and Sewer Authority for a transfer of billing responsibly as DC Water and Sewer Authority currently owns the water (having purchased it wholesale from Washington Aqueduct at the Dalecarlia Treatment Plant). Mr. Kem reported he would keep all parties apprised of any discussion they have with Washington Headquarters Services. Copies of the letters between Washington Headquarters Services and Arlington County are at enclosure 8.

Mr. Johnson reported that pursuant to public law 11-111, which created the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority, they were required to conduct two studies. One was a

privatization study and the other was a regionalization study. The privatization study is complete and the decision was to retain WASA as a public entity. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments has been retained by WASA to conduct the regionalization study. A range of options is under study from total regionalization of all water and waste water operations in the metropolitan Washington area to a refocusing of DC WASA a sewer treatment operation (with no potable water component). The report of this study is expected to be presented to the WASA Board in January 2001.

The chair announced that the responsibility for the 2001 annual meeting and board chair responsibly rotates, per the memorandum of understanding, to the General Manager, DC Water and Sewer Authority.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Thomas P. Jacobus
Chief, Washington Aqueduct

Approved by:

Daniel E. McKeever
Falls Church City Manager and Chair, Wholesale Customer Board

Enclosures:

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Operations Update
3. Capital Projects Progress Report
4. Residuals Disposal Study Update
5. Regulatory Update
6. Operations and Maintenance Budget, FY2002
7. Capital Improvement Budget FY2002 and Capital Improvement Plan FY2002-2011
8. Correspondence between Arlington County and Washington Headquarters Services, re: federally owned water mains.